

MILES UP IN A BALLOON.

Little Known Through Explorations of the Upper Air.

To cross the Alps in the air, as did the Italian aeronauts on the Milano, was a new feat in ballooning. The altitude attained by the voyagers—28,930 feet—falls considerably short of being a new record. Two English aeronauts, Messrs. Coxwell and Glaisher, ascended 37,000 feet in 1862, about seven miles, and in 1875 M. Tissandier, a Frenchman, rose more than five miles with a companion, who died on the way. One of the English adventurers became unconscious at an elevation of five and a half miles.

These figures of height have been equaled, if at all, only in the case of a self-registering balloon which was sent up from Paris in 1893, and on examination after its descent, appeared to have reached an altitude of 52,490 feet, and was thawed "higher up" by the sun's radiations. There is of course no possible verification of any claims concerning this balloon.

The voyagers with the Milano had the advantage over the high sailers of 1862 and 1875 of being equipped with tubes of oxygen for breathing in the rarefied upper air. Modern mountain-climbers have found oxygen of use, also, and the portable gas-holders may serve some day to help explorers to the summit of earth's highest peak. At present the climber's record for altitude rests at 23,394 feet, almost 6,000 feet short of Mount Everest's summit.

HOW HE FELT.



here to. Doubtless far. of Dr. Nickell, and family and hope become sorry of become

D. F. Weaver, of was down the first of his son William. We come down often (as he reaches the one drive) Hungry, lady—I was starvin', lady point of began on this beautiful beagin' meal.

Mrs. Goodheart—And how do you feel now, poor man? Hungry Pete (equivocally)—I feel as if I'd like to be starvin' all over ag'in, lady.

PARIS RESTAURANTS.

"The restaurants of Paris are the best in the world," said a chef. "Establishments like the Cafe Anglais and Paillard's, on the Boulevard des Italiens, Foyot's, near the Odeon, and Voisin's, on the Rue St. Honore, have been famous for many years for their cellars and their cooking. But in all these restaurants the cellars are now giving out.

"We Americans are proving too much for the Parisians. In too many thousands we are invading their small, modest, expensive restaurants. When, long ago, they laid down their wines of choice vintage, they had no idea that every American village would have its half dozen millionaires who would some day invade Paris and demand at the best restaurants the finest wines on the wine card.

In a word, there are so many of us rich Americans that we have seriously depleted the famous wine cellars of Paris. Thanks to our thirst, your Parisian cellars are no longer of the first quality.

"If we want superb wine cellar now, we must go to the restaurants of Brussels, which our millionaires have not yet attacked."

SOMETHING LIKE IT.

"Yes," said Mr. Swellman, "I'm looking for a coachman."

"Well, sir," put in the applicant "sure, I know all about horse an—"

"But have you had any experience with an automobile?"

"Not exactly, sor, but I wuz tossed be a bull waunst."

HIS ONE REQUEST.

"Have you any request to make?" asked the sheriff of the erstwhile society man who was to be hanged on the morrow.

"Yes, one," replied the condemned man. "Let me tie the noose myself. I never yet wore a ready-made necktie."

DUTY OF THE PROVIDER.

Why the Task of Man is Harder Than That of Woman.

Women are called unselfish as a sex; is it unselfish to take the easiest part of life and keep it because the law allows it? The easiest part is to be without responsibility and to avoid thought. Many women think that if they work very hard in their homes, are saving and careful, they have as hard a task as their husbands. Such women are ignorant of the meaning of responsibility, and they have avoided thinking about it too closely. If they once had on their shoulders the success or the failure of supplying their entire household, they would appreciate that the hardest work without that anxiety was as child's play to the responsibility of meeting all these financial obligations comprehended as the duty of the provider, says the Pictorial Review.

It is said that a woman is never so happy as when she is getting a bargain. Now, this impulse in women to make a good "trade," to get something for nothing, or for very little, may show thrifty management, but, carried through everything, does it not show a mean spirit, or, at least, a selfish one? For there cannot be a real return made if a thing is got at any advantage. To prevent workers from being unfairly dealt with the co-operative work of the Consumers' league was instituted by some of those women who were unselfish enough to assume responsibility and thought, some of them without necessity or obligation to do so. If I could persuade all our readers to consider some of the serious and important subjects that are being written and spoken of they will commence to make return for all the thought and effort the government has been put to in their behalf.

WHEN FOOD BECOMES POISON.

If one were to say that thousands of people regularly and almost systematically poison themselves with food it would strike the average layman as extravagant. The opinion of the layman, however, cuts no figure when compared with a scientific deduction of one who has carefully observed the facts.

How many people are there who select their food with care, eat it at the right time and in the proper way to insure good digestion and subsequent absorption of just the physiologically correct amount of nutriment required to repair the waste incurred by the duties of every-day life? There are very few.

Some starve themselves, but the great majority go to the other extreme and constantly overeat. One eats too much at regular meal times, while another eats less, but feeds more frequently. In either case the digestive apparatus is overtaxed.

NEW TO HIM.



Geary—W-o-o-k! Dat's a funny word. I must get a dictionary an' look it up some time!—Cincinnati Tribune.

PRETTY CHINESE GOLD FISH.

The fish was no bigger than a silver dollar. Its color was bright gold, and it has a beautiful, bushy, golden tail.

"That," said the pet stock dealer, "is the finest aquarium fish in the world, a Chinese brush-tailed gold fish. It is handsome, healthy and long-lived, and if you were a trust magnate I'd advise you to give one to your little girl for a Christmas present.

"A good brush-tailed gold fish," he concluded, "costs \$250 or \$300, and some fine specimens have sold for as much as \$700 apiece."

HAS 1,500 AMERICAN IDOLS.

Rare Collection Took Seventeen Years in Gathering.

L. Bradford Prince, ex-governor of New Mexico, has probably the finest private collection of Indian stone idols in the United States, says the Kansas City Times. The idols—1,500 of them—are stored in Mr. Prince's home in Santa Fe, excepting some loaned to the National museum in Washington and the Metropolitan museum in New York.

"My family says there isn't room to turn around at our house for the images," the ex-governor said, laughingly, at the Coates house. When asked if he could estimate the value of his collection, which includes many curios besides idols, he shook his head.

"It took 17 years to gather all the idols and cost a lot of money to get them to Santa Fe," he said. "Some of the larger ones are made of pumice and are very brittle. They had to be sacked and carried carefully over mountains to my home. They were all taken from the ruins of ancient cities, which are scattered over New Mexico. The largest is five and one-half feet tall and they range down to tiny images. Many present human figures, others are in the form of animals, and all are connected with the complicated mythology still believed by the survivors of these old peoples.

"One scientist has said that in an area 30 miles long by 20 wide in New Mexico there are more ruins than in all Europe put together. The latest report of the government bureau of ethnology, the twenty-third, written by Mrs. Matilda C. Stevenson, of Washington, deals entirely with the pueblo of Zuni, in New Mexico.

THE HABIT OF WORK.

If one were advising members of the literary craft, who usually feel that they have a right to lean upon the promptings of inclination, one would say: Write every day from ten to one; and once the habit is formed of so doing, the thought will answer the daily summons at the given hour; ideas are amenable to habit, like most forces. The writer must tackle his task at a given time, for the "muse" snickers his books and marches into school, never asking if that is the psychological moment of illumination, only if it is the hour when the school bell rings. So for most of the world's work the great point is not to postpone and do something else, which one fondly persuades oneself is preparatory to the work, but to begin promptly on the job with such facilities and facilities as one can muster. "Launch yourself with as strong and decided an initiative as possible," realizing that only so can you put yourself to the test and succeed or fail.—Harper's Weekly.

WHY TOAST IS WHOLESOME.

"Did you ever wonder why toast is always recommended for invalids?" said a chemist. "The reason is that toast is pre-digested bread. What makes fresh bread unfit for invalids is the starch left.

"Starch is very hard to digest. It needs a good stomach to take hold of the soggy starch in bread and change it to strengthening, stimulating dextrine.

"But when you cut breathin and toast it brown the starch changes the starch to dextrine. That, in fact, is what the oven color in toast indicates—the starch is gone, and dextrine has taken its place. The stuff is digested.

"So we feed our invalids toast, a dish as thoroughly predigested as any of the most famous breakfast foods."

SPECIAL "BITTERS"

"Jason, the storekeeper at Apple Bend, is selling a lot of patent medicines since he off his special inducement," said Mr. Jinson after meeting with.

"Do tell," exclaimed Dr. Elderberry. "Is he cutting price of the medicine?"

"No, by heck; he is off a package of cloves with candle."—N. Y. Times.

ALL BALLED UP N

"How are you getting with spelling reform?"

"Well, before it came would spell badly—but I could."—Detroit Free Press.

MORE MONEY IN IT.

Why One Man Declined Election as United States Senator.

J. H. Hale, the millionaire fruit grower of South Glastonbury, Conn., who is known all over the country as one of the largest growers in the world, is perhaps the only man in the country who ever "turned down" a unanimous election as United States senator. Mr. Hale owns something like 350,000 fruit trees in Georgia. It cost him last year nearly \$160,000 merely to put his enormous crop on the market, but he is one of the most delightfully unostentatious men in Connecticut.

He has always been interested in movements for the betterment of his town and state. Some few years ago he was tendered the election as senator "on a silver platter," as he aptly put it. When waited upon by the legislative committee, Mr. Hale literally held up his hands.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I don't want to be elected to your august senate. Really, I don't. I'd rather be a farmer. Besides—there's more money in it." And Mr. Hale, who has gained considerable prominence as a public speaker, says he is still "close to the soil."

OF COURSE.



Tommy—Father, can a lantern-jawed man see in the dark?

WHERE NATURE DOES COOKING.

There are one or two countries—Iceland, for example—where wash-day is not dreaded, because nature provides the hot water at one's very springs of spouting geysers. But there is only one country where the native women do practically all their cooking by unaided nature, and that is the North island of New Zealand. Here is a wonderland of a thousand square miles, so volcanic that a fire may be lighted by inserting a few sticks in the earth, and wherever one makes a hole he speedily has a pool of boiling water, into which a pudding may be lowered incased in a cloth and cooked expeditiously.

Frequently in perfectly cold streams a boiling hot current may be seen and felt running along the edge of the river, and here the Maori women do their own and the white man's washing. Naturally the volcanic region of New Zealand is a dangerous country to wander in without a guide, and many tourists have lost their lives as the result of such carelessness.

HER ARITHMETIC FACULTY.

The busy shopper paused at the fruit vender's stand. "How much are your pineapples?" she asked.

"Eight cents apiece, lady."

"Well, I declare, that's too good to be missed; I'll take eight of them," she said.

"The dealer placed them in a bag and said: 'Eight eights—88. You take dem along for 85.'"

The lady's eyes sparkled at the bargain price, and she departed in a happy frame of mind—happy until her husband told her to brush up on the multiplication table.—Lippincott's.

ALL TALK.

Mrs. Subbubs—Mrs. Naylor says she never has to ask her husband for money, because he gives her all she wants. I wish I could say that.

Mr. Subbubs—Well, why don't you, my dear? You can talk just as big as she does."

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.

"Yes, the fine fellow is dead and he left his money to charity. His funeral was very largely attended."

"Ah, yes, he had lots of friends. I don't suppose he had any enemies at all."

"Oh, yes, a few; he had several relatives."

Chas. M. Bowring

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